

Message Text

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S E C R E T TOKYO 16549

FOR HABIB FROM AMBASSADOR

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, JA

SUBJECT: MIYAZAWA VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 277080

REURTEL CONCERNING A POSSIBLE EARLY VISIT TO WASHINGTON BY NEW JAPANESE FONMIN, THE FOLLOWING ARE MY VIEWS:

1. THE ONLY UPCOMING WINDOW IN MIYAZAWA'S SCHEDULE SEEMS TO BE JAN. 5 TO 20 WHEN THE DIET WILL NOT BE IN SESSION. ABSENT THE NEED TO ATTEND A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, FOREIGN MINISTERS HERE RARELY LEAVE THE COUNTRY WHEN THE DIET IS IN SESSION. DIET SESSION STARTING JAN. 20 IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE 150-PLUS DAYS UNINTERRUPTED.

2. IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF A SPECIAL "REASON" COULD BE GIVEN FOR EXTENDING AN EARLY INVITATION TO MIYAZAWA TO VISIT WASHINGTON. SOME PRIOR MINISTERS RECEIVED NEWSPAPER FLAK ABOUT "RUNNING OFF TO WASHINGTON TO GET INSTRUCTIONS" WHEN THEY MADE SUCH A TRIP EARLY IN THEIR MINISTERIAL TENURE.

UNCONFIRMED WORD HERE HAS IT THAT MIYAZAWA MAY GO TO MOSCOW IN JANUARY. IF SO, IT COULD BE SUGGESTED THAT HE RETURN HOME VIA WASHINGTON. BOTH STOPS COULD BE LABELED BY GOJ AS PART OF A "CONTINUING CONSULTATIIN" PROCESS.

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AN ALTERNATE REASON COULD BE TO PROVIDE MIYAZAWA WITH A
REPORT OF THE MARTINIQUE MEETING AND/OR ANY OTHER RECENT
MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENTS OF SHARED CONCERN.

3. WITH APPROVAL FROM YOU I COULD QUICKLY EXPLORE WITH VICE
MINISTER TOGO MIYAZAWA'S RECEPTIVITY TO AN INVITATION DURING THIS
PERIOD AND GAIN TOGO'S VIEWS ON THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE ABOVE OR
OTHER REASONS YOU MAY SUGGEST.

PLEASE ADVISE.
HODGSON

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NNN

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